ORPHANED AS A CHILD WHEN HIS PARENTS WERE MURDERED BEFORE HIS EYES, BRUCE WAYNE HAS TRAINED HIMSELF TO WAGE RELENTLESS WAR AGAINST CRIME AS THE DREAD AVENGER OF THE NIGHT...
BAT MAN
CREATED BY BOB KANE
THE NIGHT IS FILLED WITH SOUND AND FURY-- FOR THOSE WHO KNOW HOW TO LISTEN!
LISTEN CLOSELY AND YOU CAN HEAR THE LOW SAD RUMBLE OF THUNDER ON THE HORIZON--THE SOFT STEALTHY TREAD OF TRESPASSING FOOTSTEPS-- THE FAINT CLICK OF SAFE TUMBLERS BEING TEASED TO REVEAL THEIR SECRETS--
--AND THE AUDIBLE GASP THAT RISES FROM THE GATHERED THIEVES, WHEN A SUDDEN STROKE OF LIGHTNING REVEALS...
THE B-B-BATMAN!?!
STEADY ON, LADS! NO MAN ALIVE IS A MATCH FOR--THE GENTLEMAN GHOST!
NEVER GIVE UP THE GHOST!
LEN WEIN WRITER
IRV NOVICK & BOB SMITH ARTISTS
GLYNIS WEIN COLORIST
BEN ODA LETTERER
PAUL LEVITZ EDITOR

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I SEE YOU MANAGED TO SURVIVE YOUR APPARENT DEATH-PLUNGE OVER THAT CLIFF, GHOST! *
AS EVER, BATMAN, REPORTS OF MY--AH--LIFE HAVE BEEN GREATLY EXAGGERATED!
* AS WITNESSED IN BATMAN #310. -- PAUL.
WELL, YOU CAN TELL ME HOW YOU ACCOMPLISHED THAT LITTLE STUNT WHILE I'M DRAGGING YOU TO JAIL!
HELL'S BELLS!! DON'T YOU EVER GIVE UP?
NEVER!!
IT'S ONE OF MY MORE STERLING QUALITIES!
BUT ANY TIME YOU AND YOUR CLUMSY CRONIES HERE WANT TO GIVE UP, GHOST--
WHOK!
UUNNHH!!
--I'LL BE MORE THAN HAPPY TO ACCEPT YOUR SURRENDER!
I'D JUST ADVISE YOU TO MAKE YOUR MINDS UP QUICKLY, FELLAS--
BROK!
HNUUNNHH!
--WHILE THERE'S STILL ENOUGH OF YOU LEFT TO SURRENDER!
WHAK!
2

DON'T KNOW WHY A SUPPOSEDLY HIGH-CLASS JEWEL THIEF LIKE YOU IS STEALING CRUDE INDUSTRIAL DIAMONDS, GHOST--
--BUT YOU'LL SERVE THE SAME AMOUNT OF HARD TIME EITHER WAY!
OH, I RATHER THINK NOT!
KLUNK!
AND EVEN AS THE DARKNIGHT DETECTIVE HURLS HIMSELF SAVAGELY AT HIS HOARY FOE...
EH--?!?
THAT HOIST-HOOK HE ACTIVATED SNAGGED MY BILLOWING CAPE--
HOW ASTUTE!
--AND THE FABRIC IS TOO STRONG FOR ME TO PULL FREE!
A PITY YOU FORGOT THE FIRST RULE OF THIS GAME, DEAR BOY--
--ONE SHOULD ALWAYS WATCH ONE'S BACK!
NOW, IF YOU'LL EXCUSE US, MY LADS AND I WILL BE LEAVING!
I SINCERELY HOPE WE DON'T CROSS PATHS AGAIN, BATMAN!
I DOUBT YOU CAN AFFORD THE EMBARRASSMENT!
HA HA HA HA
3

CAN'T LET THE GHOST GET AWAY WITH THOSE DIAMONDS!
BETTER USE THE BATARANG--!
ZING!
EH?
MY DIAMONDS--!?!
HE YANKED THE SATCHEL RIGHT OUT OF MY HAND--!
IF YOU WANT IT BACK, GHOST-- JUST COME OVER HERE AND TAKE IT!
AND RISK CAPTURE? GENTLEMAN JIM CRADDOCK IS NO FOOL, SIR!
BUT YOU HAVE NOT HEARD THE LAST OF THIS!
I SWEAR THOSE DIAMONDS WILL YET BE MINE--
--AND A GENTLEMAN ALWAYS KEEPS HIS WORD!
FINALLY FREED MYSELF...
--BUT THE GHOST AND HIS GANG HAVE GAINED A TREMENDOUS HEADSTART!
HAVE TO MOVE IF I HOPE TO CATCH THEM-- EVEN THOUGH I KNOW I'M WASTING MY TIME!
THEY'VE COMPLETELY VANISHED--
--JUST AS I EXPECTED!
THERE'S NOTHING MORE I CAN DO HERE TONIGHT--
--EXCEPT TO TAKE A FEW SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS!
4

CONTINUED ON 3RD PAGE FOLLOWING.

SOON AFTER, THE SLEEK BATMOBILE ROARS TOWARDS THE LOOMING WAYNE FOUNDATION--
--AND THEN, REMARKABLY, RIGHT ON PAST IT, OUT OF GOTHAM CITY--
WAYNE FOUNDATION
--TO A LONELY COUNTRY ROAD THAT WINDS PAST A SECLUDED HILLSIDE--
--WHERE A CAMOUFLAGED ENTRANCE CONCEALS THE LEGENDARY BAT-CAVE!
AND WHERE, MOMENTS LATER, A GRIM BATMAN CAN ONCE MORE BECOME MERELY MILLIONAIRE BRUCE WAYNE...
I'M GLAD NOW WE NEVER TRANSFERRED EVERYTHING TO THE NEW CAVE UNDER THE WAYNE BUILDING!
IF THINGS WORK OUT AS I HOPE THEY WILL, I'LL HAVE PLENTY OF USE FOR THIS OLD PLACE AGAIN!
GRINNING, THE YOUNG PHILANTHROPIST ASCENDS THE OLDE STONE STAIRCASE, THEN STEPS THROUGH A SECRET PORTAL...
WHO--?!?
OH--MASTER BRUCE, YOU STARTLED ME, SIR.
SORRY ABOUT THAT, ALFRED.
TRUTH TO TELL, SIR-- I'D ALMOST FORGOTTEN THAT OLD ENTRANCE TO THE BAT-CAVE!
THAT MAKES TWO OF US, OLD FRIEND-- BUT I THOUGHT I'D GIVE THE ELEVATOR SYSTEM A COMPLETE OVERHAUL BEFORE I USED IT AGAIN!
BESIDES, THERE'S A SENSE OF TRADITION IN USING THAT OLD GRANDFATHER CLOCK!
IT'S A FEELING THAT PERVADES ALL OF WAYNE MANOR!
I'LL TELL YOU, ALFRED-- IT'S GREAT TO BE HOME AGAIN!

THE DARKNESS GIVES WAY TO DAWN AS A POLICE CAR, LIGHTS FLASHING, WHEELS THROUGH THE DESERTED STREETS OF LOWER GOTHAM--
--TO FIND ITS WAY SUDDENLY BLOCKED BY...
A BODY-- SPRAWLED ACROSS THE ROAD--!?!
BETTER BE CAREFUL! THIS MIGHT BE A TRICK TO FREE OUR PRISONER!
BUT HOW COULD ANYONE KNOW WE'D BE TAKING THIS RANDOM ROUTE!
IN THIS BUSINESS, CHUM-- ANYTHING IS POSSIBLE!
INCLUDING...
HUH? IT'S A MANNEQUIN-- WITH THE FACE OF A CLOWN!?
I DON'T GET IT!
OH, BUT YOU WILL, FRIEND-- YOU WILL!
HEY, THAT'S-- GAS!?!
C-CAN'T BREATHE--!
AND AS THE TWO STRICKEN OFFICERS COLLAPSE TO THE STREET...
IT WORKED-- EXACTLY LIKE THE BOSS SAID IT WOULD!
YEAH, HE MAY BE CRAZY-- BUT HE'S SURE SMART!
OKAY, SOUTHPAW --OUTTA THE CAR!
LIKE IT OR NOT, YER COMIN' WITH US!
C'MON, GUYS-- GIMME A BREAK! I AIN'T NEVER DONE NOTHIN' TO YOU!
MAYBE NOT-- BUT YOU WAS GONNA START SQUEALIN' ON THE BOSS!
AN' HE DON'T LIKE THAT-- NOT NO HOW!
STILL STRUGGLING, THE MAN CALLED SOUTHPAW IS DRAGGED AWAY PAST THE SPRAWLED POLICEMEN, THEIR DEAD FACES TWISTED INTO A HIDEOUS GRIN, THEIR TAUT LIPS A BRIGHT RUBY RED--
--AND THE ECHO OF MANIACAL LAUGHTER DRIFTS FAINTLY ON THE BREEZE!
PD
6

AND WHILE SOUTHPAW SIMMERS ON THE BACK BURNER FOR THE NONCE, WE SHIFT AHEAD TO THE FOLLOWING EVENING--
--SPECIFICALLY, TO THE SHADYVILLE FUNERAL HOME--
--A MOST APPROPRIATE RESIDENCE FOR ONE WHO PROFESSES TO BE A GHOST!
'ERE'S YOUR TEA, GUV'NOR.
THANK YOU, ALFIE. AS SOON AS I FINISH, WE'LL BE ON ABOUT OUR BUSINESS FOR THE EVENING.
WE AIN'T REALLY GONNA TRY ROBBIN' THAT SAME FACTORY AGAIN, ARE WE?
WE ARE INDEED, REGGIE! ALL MY PLANS DEPEND ON IT!
BUT THE BATMAN WILL LIKELY BE WAITIN' FOR US!
PRECISELY AS I INTENDED!
IT'S OUR OPPORTUNITY TO RID OURSELVES OF HIM ONCE AND FOR ALL!
I'VE GROWN QUITE FOND OF GOTHAM CITY! IN MANY WAYS, IT REMINDS ME OF MY OWN LONDON OF A CENTURY AGONE!
BUT, AS THE CLICHÉ GOES, THIS CITY SIMPLY ISN'T BIG ENOUGH FOR BOTH THE BATMAN AND MYSELF!
ONE OF US WILL HAVE TO GO-- AND I ASSURE YOU IT SHAN'T BE ME!
ANOTHER CUP OF TEA, PLEASE, ALFIE.
RIGHT AWAY, GUV'NOR.
HA HA HA HA HA
I'D GIVE ANYTHING TO KNOW 'OW A BLOKE WIT' NO 'EAD DRINKS SO MUCH TEA.
ME TOO, ALF-- BUT I SURE AIN'T GONNA BE THE LAD WHAT ASKS 'IM!
7

WHILE, AT WAYNE MANOR, WHERE THE LIGHTS ARE BURNING BRIGHTLY...
YOU DON'T LOOK TOO PLEASED ABOUT THIS COSTUME PARTY, ALFRED.
I'M ONLY SORRY MASTER DICK CAN'T BE HERE TO JOIN US, SIR.
ME TOO! IT'S A SHAME THOSE COLLEGE EXAMS KEPT HIM TIED UP AT HUDSON U.
ARE YOU CERTAIN YOU CAN AFFORD THE TIME FOR THIS SILLINESS, MASTER BRUCE-- WITH THE GENTLEMAN GHOST STILL AT LARGE?
I HAVE NO CHOICE, ALFRED.
BESIDE, I'LL KNOW IF THE GHOST ATTEMPTS TO CARRY OUT HIS THREAT.
IF SECURITY AT THAT FACTORY IS BREECHED AGAIN, THIS DEVICE WILL INSTANTLY ALERT ME!
HERE, OLD FRIEND-- YOU'D BETTER CARRY THIS.
ME, SIR?
IT'S SAFER. IT WOULDN'T DO FOR BRUCE WAYNE TO SUDDENLY START BEEPING RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE OF THE PARTY!
YOU MAY RELY ON ME, SIR.
I ALWAYS HAVE!
NOW LET'S GO! IT'S TIME FOR "HENRY THE EIGHTH" TO MEET HIS COURT.
AND WHAT A COURT IT IS--
--FOR, TONIGHT, THE HALLOWED HALLS OF WAYNE MANOR HAVE BECOME A FANTASYLAND, POPULATED BY THOSE LONG DEAD AND THOSE WHO HAVE NEVER REALLY LIVED--
--AND THEY'RE ALL HAVING A WONDERFUL TIME!
8

CONTINUED ON 3RD PAGE FOLLOWING.

THIS MAY JUST BE THE PARTY OF THE YEAR, BRUCE.
I SURE HOPE SO, SELINA. IT STRUCK ME AS THE PERFECT WAY TO REOPEN WAYNE MANOR--AND HELP CHARITY AT THE SAME TIME!
I ALSO LIKE YOUR COSTUME, HANDSOME.
WELL, WHO BETTER THAN HENRY THE EIGHTH TO ESCORT CATHERINE OF ARAGON?
PLEASE... CALL ME CAT.
AND SPEAKING OF CATS, A CERTAIN CATWOMAN WOULD'VE BEEN LICKING HER WHISKERS OVER ALL THOSE JEWELS!
IT'S ALL FOR A GOOD CAUSE, MS. KYLE. EACH OF THOSE GEMS WAS CONTRIBUTED BY ONE OF TONIGHT'S GUESTS.
IT'S THE SORT OF TAX DEDUCTION THAT MAKES AN ACCOUNTANT'S MOUTH WATER.
I DON'T DOUBT YOUR DEVIOUS MIND WOULD WORK THAT WAY, MR. FOX!
EASY NOW, CHILDREN--BE NICE!
I WAS HOPING YOU AND LUCIUS WOULD'VE RESOLVED YOUR DIFFERENCES BY NOW, SELINA.
IT BOTHERS ME TO HAVE TWO OF MY FAVORITE PEOPLE AT ONE ANOTHER'S THROAT ALL THE TIME.
WELL, I'M WILLING TO FORGIVE AND FORGET IF YOU ARE, LUCIUS.
MS. KYLE, NOTHING WOULD MAKE ME HAPPIER.
THERE! NOW DO YOU SEE HOW MUCH NICER IT IS WHEN--
--EH?
ALFRED BECKONING ME--! SOMETHING'S UP!
I'M AFRAID I'VE FORGOTTEN A LITTLE--AH--LAST-MINUTE BUSINESS I HAVE TO ATTEND TO--
--BUT YOU TWO CAN KEEP EACH OTHER ENTERTAINED TILL I GET BACK!
BRUCE--?
SORRY, HONEY--BUT IT'S IMPORTANT!
THAT MAN WOULD BE JUST ABOUT PERFECT IF HE DIDN'T KEEP PULLING THESE SUDDEN DISAPPEARING ACTS!
THAT BOTHERS YOU TOO, HUH?
SELINA, WE MAY HAVE MORE IN COMMON THAN WE'D THOUGHT!

BUT EVEN AS LUCIUS FOX AND SELINA KYLE COMPARE NOTES, A SLEEK, BLACK RACING MACHINE IS ROARING THROUGH THE DARKNESS--
--CARRYING THE OBJECT OF THEIR DISCUSSION ON A DESPERATE QUEST!
IT'S BEEN LESS THAN FIVE MINUTES SINCE THE BEEPER WENT OFF--
--BUT THAT MAY STILL BE MUCH TOO LONG!
IF THE GHOST HAS ANY SENSE AFTER LAST NIGHT, HE'LL HIT THIS PLACE--THEN RUN AS QUICK AS HE CAN!
BETTER BE CAREFUL--THOUGH IT LOOKS LIKE I'M ALREADY TOO LATE!
THERE ISN'T A SIGN OF--
--EH?
THAT LIGHT--SPILLING OUT FROM UNDER THAT DOOR--!
MAYBE THE GENTLEMAN GHOST ISN'T AS SMART AS I THOUGHT!
WHAT--? MUFFLED BREATHING ON EITHER SIDE OF ME--?!?
THEY WERE WAITING!
YOU SHOULD NEVER'VE COME BACK 'ERE, MATE!
WE AIN'T FORGOTTEN THAT BEATIN' YOU GAVE US LAST NIGHT!
AND YOU OBVIOUSLY HAVEN'T LEARNED ANYTHING FROM IT EITHER!
NOW WHY DON'T YOU BOTH LIE HERE WHILE I GO TAKE CARE OF YOUR BOSS!
KRAK!!
10
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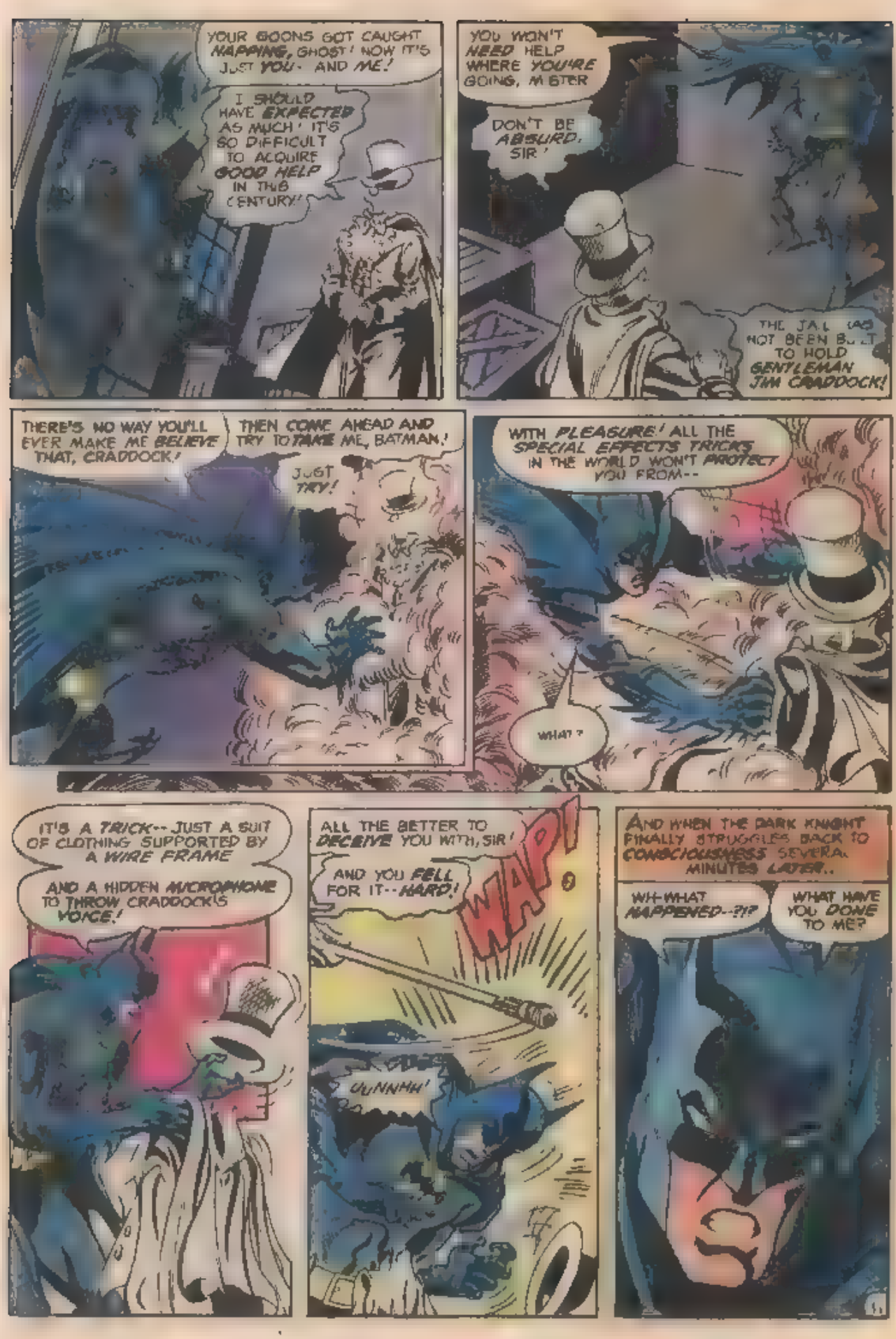
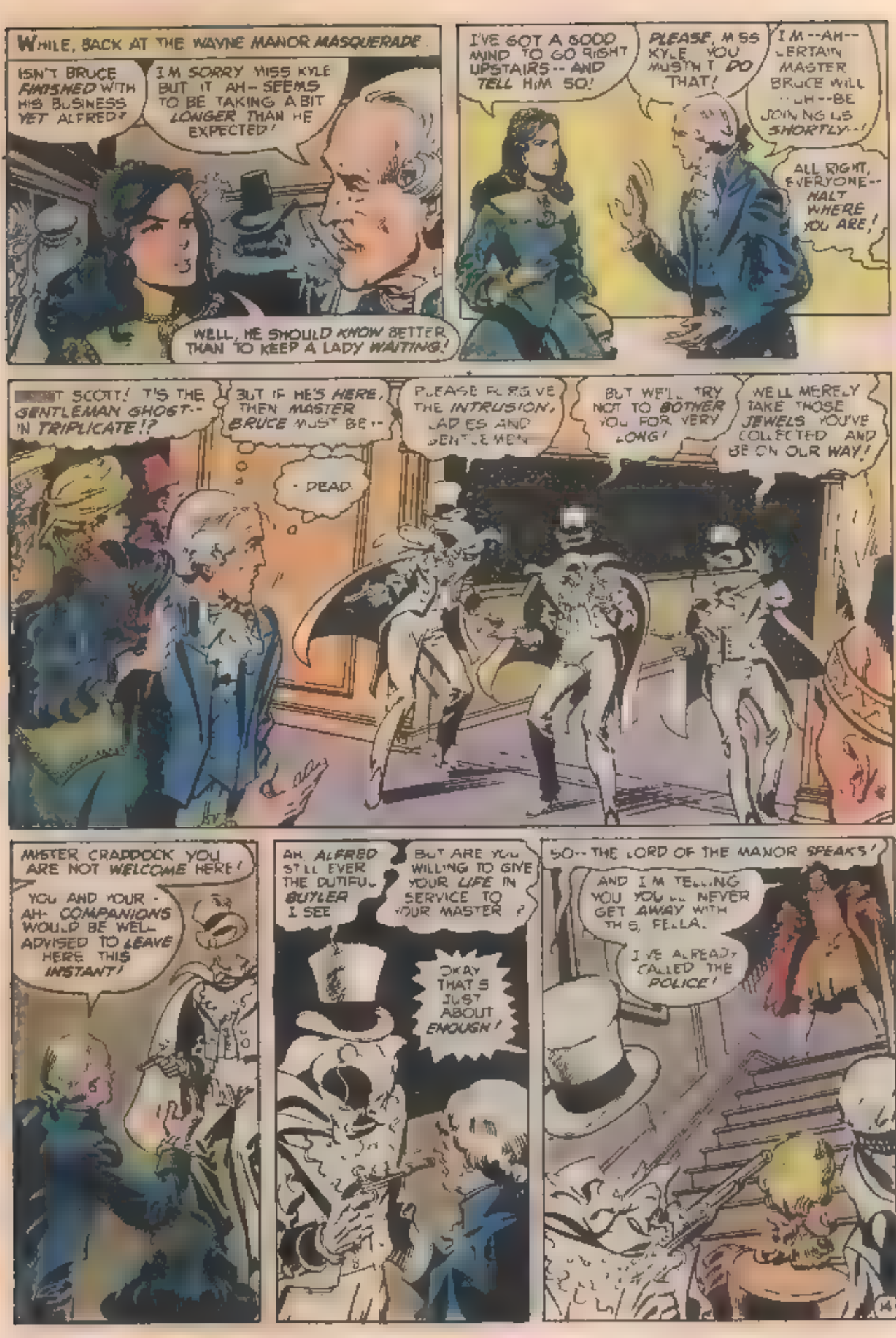
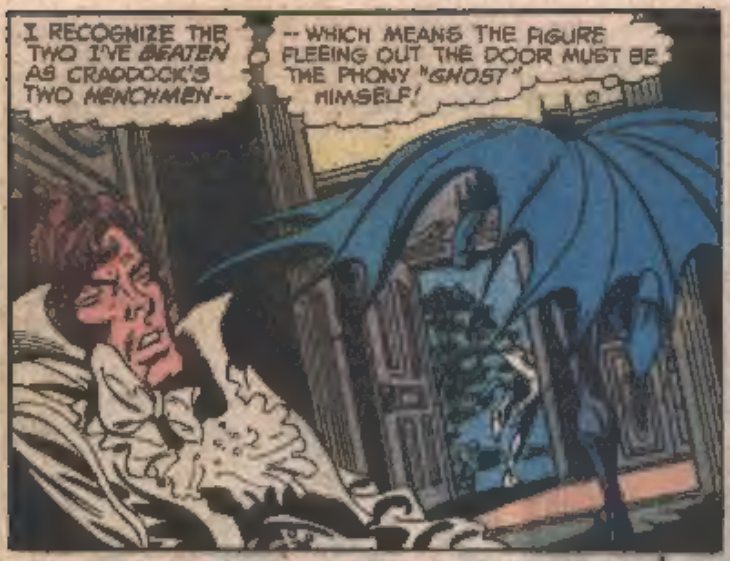

YOUR GOONS GOT CAUGHT NAPPING, GHOST! NOW IT'S JUST YOU - AND ME!
I SHOULD HAVE EXPECTED AS MUCH! IT'S SO DIFFICULT TO ACQUIRE GOOD HELP IN THIS CENTURY!
YOU WON'T NEED HELP WHERE YOU'RE GOING, MISTER
DON'T BE ABSURD, SIR!
THE JAIL HAS NOT BEEN BUILT TO HOLD GENTLEMAN JIM CRADDOCK!
THERE'S NO WAY YOU'LL EVER MAKE ME BELIEVE THAT, CRADDOCK!
THEN COME AHEAD AND TRY TO TAKE ME, BATMAN!
JUST TRY!
WITH PLEASURE! ALL THE SPECIAL EFFECTS TRICKS IN THE WORLD WON'T PROTECT YOU FROM--
WHAT?
IT'S A TRICK-- JUST A SUIT OF CLOTHING SUPPORTED BY A WIRE FRAME
AND A HIDDEN MICROPHONE TO THROW CRADDOCK'S VOICE!
ALL THE BETTER TO DECEIVE YOU WITH, SIR!
AND YOU FELL FOR IT-- HARD!
WAP!
UUNNHH!
AND WHEN THE DARK KNIGHT FINALLY STRUGGLES BACK TO CONSCIOUSNESS SEVERAL MINUTES LATER..
WH-WHAT HAPPENED--?!?
WHAT HAVE YOU DONE TO ME?

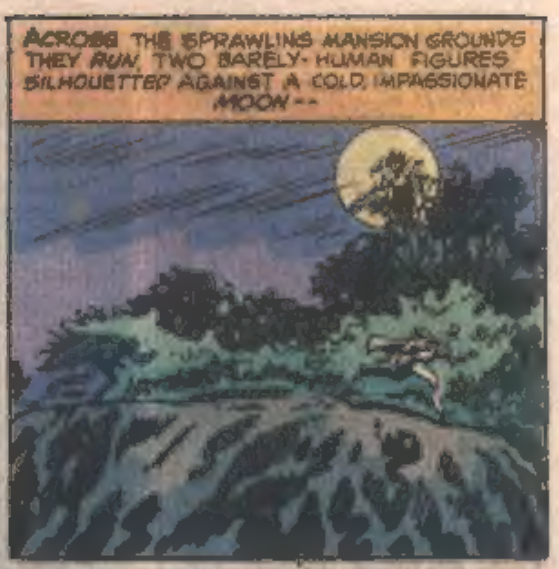
YOU'RE SUPPOSEDLY THE DETECTIVE, BATMAN! I SHOULD THINK THE ANSWER TO THAT WOULD BE OBVIOUS!
AND YOU NEEDN'T ATTEMPT TO UNLOCK THOSE HEAVY MANACLES, DEAR BOY! THEY'VE BEEN WELDED SHUT!
WHAT ARE YOU PLANNING TO DO, GHOST?
WHY, I'M PLANNING TO KILL YOU, OF COURSE!
THIS SULPHURIC ACID WILL STRIP YOU TO THE BONE IN A MATTER OF MINUTES!
SSSLLLT!
B..T I REALLY WOULDN'T WORRY ABOUT THAT IF I WERE YOU!
I FULLY EXPECT THE NOXIOUS FUMES YOU'RE INHALING WILL FINISH YOU BEFORE YOU EVER REACH THE VAT!
I REALIZE THIS IS RATHER MELODRAMATIC
CLICK!
--BUT IT'S THAT VERY FACT THAT APPEALS TO ME SO!
MURDER HAS BECOME SO UNIMAGINATIVE OF LATE, DON'T YOU AGREE?
BUT, REGRETTABLY, I CANNOT STAY AND SAVOR YOUR DEMISE, BATMAN!
MY LADS AND I HAVE A RATHER SPECIAL PARTY TO ATTEND--AT A MOST FAMILIAR MANSION!
CHEERIO, DEAR BOY --TRY NOT TO LINGER!
COULDN'T RESPOND TO THE GHOST--! I'VE BEEN CONCENTRATING ON MY BREATHING--
--SLOWING IT SO I WON'T TAKE IN TOO MUCH OF THESE FOUL-SMELLING FUMES--!
12

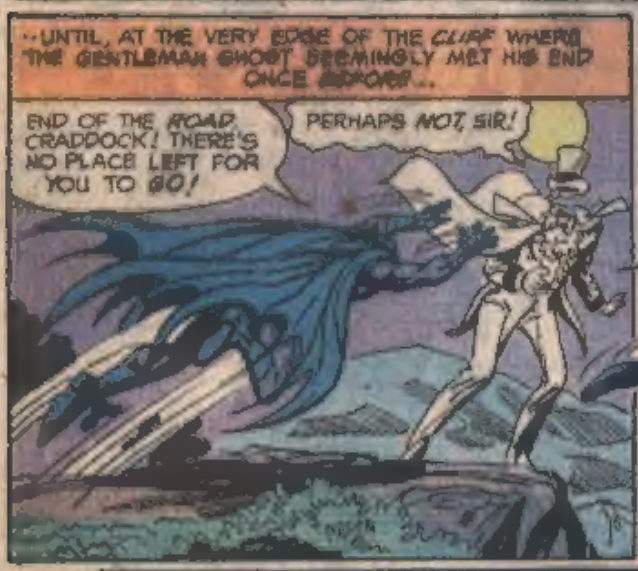
HAVE TO KEEP MY HEAD CLEAR FOR WHAT COMES NEXT--!
THERE'S SOME GIVE IN THIS CHAIN--
- ENOUGH TO LET ME START SWINGING--
-USING THE WINCH'S OWN MOTION TO GIVE ME SOME EXTRA MOMENTUM--
--SO THAT I CAN FINALLY GRAB THE OTHER SIDE OF THE CHAIN BETWEEN MY LEGS--
--AND PULL MYSELF AWAY FROM THE ACID VAT AND THOSE BLASTED FUMES!
NOW COMES THE REALLY DIFFICULT PART!
I'VE GOT TO LOWER MYSELF ALONG THE ASCENDING LENGTH OF CHAIN-
--AND LET THE WINCH'S GRINDING GEARS SNAP OPEN THESE MANACLES--
- WITHOUT CRIPPLING MYSELF IN THE PROCESS!
CRUNCH!
MADE IT
- BUT NOT BY VERY MUCH!
THAT'S ANOTHER ONE I OWE THE SO CALLED GENTLEMAN GHOST-
AND I INTEND TO PAY HIM BACK IN SPADES!
13

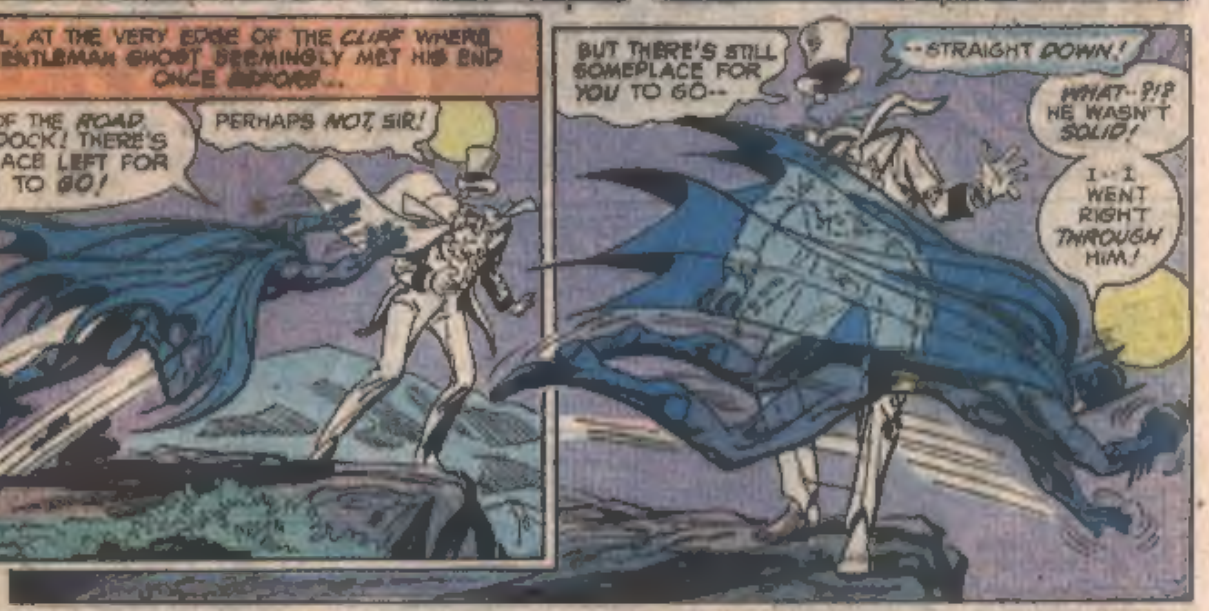

WHILE, BACK AT THE WAYNE MANOR MASQUERADE
ISN'T BRUCE FINISHED WITH HIS BUSINESS YET ALFRED?
I'M SORRY MISS KYLE BUT IT AH-- SEEMS TO BE TAKING A BIT LONGER THAN HE EXPECTED!
WELL, HE SHOULD KNOW BETTER THAN TO KEEP A LADY WAITING!
I'VE GOT A GOOD MIND TO GO RIGHT UPSTAIRS -- AND TELL HIM SO!
PLEASE, MISS KYLE YOU MUSN'T DO THAT!
I'M --AH-- CERTAIN MASTER BRUCE WILL --UH--BE JOINING US SHORTLY--!
ALL RIGHT, EVERYONE-- HALT WHERE YOU ARE!
T SCOTT! T'S THE GENTLEMAN GHOST-- IN TRIPLICATE!?
BUT IF HE'S HERE, THEN MASTER BRUCE MUST BE--
- DEAD
PLEASE FORGIVE THE INTRUSION, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN
BUT WE'LL TRY NOT TO BOTHER YOU FOR VERY LONG!
WE'LL MERELY TAKE THOSE JEWELS YOU'VE COLLECTED AND BE ON OUR WAY!
MISTER CRADDOCK YOU ARE NOT WELCOME HERE!
YOU AND YOUR - AH- COMPANIONS WOULD BE WELL ADVISED TO LEAVE HERE THIS INSTANT!
AH, ALFRED STILL EVER THE DUTIFUL BUTLER I SEE
BUT ARE YOU WILLING TO GIVE YOUR LIFE IN SERVICE TO YOUR MASTER?
OKAY THAT'S JUST ABOUT ENOUGH!
SO-- THE LORD OF THE MANOR SPEAKS!
AND I'M TELLING YOU YOU'LL NEVER GET AWAY WITH THIS, FELLA.
I'VE ALREADY CALLED THE POLICE!
14

THEN IT'S A SHAME YOU SHAN'T BE HERE TO GREET THEM, SQUIRE WAYNE--
BUT I'M AFRAID YOU'LL BE QUITE DEAD!
ANGRILY, A WHITE-GLOVED FINGER TIGHTENS ON A GLEAMING BRASS TRIGGER--
--EVEN AS ANOTHER FINGER SWITCHES OFF THE LIGHTS!
WHAT THE--?!?
AND WHEN YET ANOTHER FINGER FUMBLES THE LIGHTS BACK ON INSTANTS LATER...
BLIMEY! WAYNE IS-- GONE!
THEN WE BETTER GET OUT OF 'ERE, TOO!
YOU'RE NOT GOING ANYWHERE, MISTER -- EXCEPT TO JAIL!
WHUD
THAT MAY BE THE FASTEST COSTUME-CHANGE OF MY CAREER!
I JUST BARELY MANAGED TO CIRCLE AROUND THE HOUSE!
WHY, HE'S NO GHOST--!
--MERELY A SCOUNDREL HUNCHED OVER INSIDE THE COSTUME TO MAKE HIMSELF APPEAR HEADLESS!
EXACTLY AS I EXPECTED! I NEVER REALLY BELIEVED GENTLEMAN JIM CRADDOCK WAS A TRUE GHOST!
JUST AN ELABORATE CON MAN!
UUNNFF!!
WOK!
LOOK AT THAT MAN MOVE! HE'S JUST AS MAGNIFICENT AS EVER!
15


I RECOGNIZE THE TWO I'VE BEATEN AS CRADDOCK'S TWO HENCHMEN--
--WHICH MEANS THE FIGURE FLEEING OUT THE DOOR MUST BE THE PHONY "GHOST" HIMSELF!

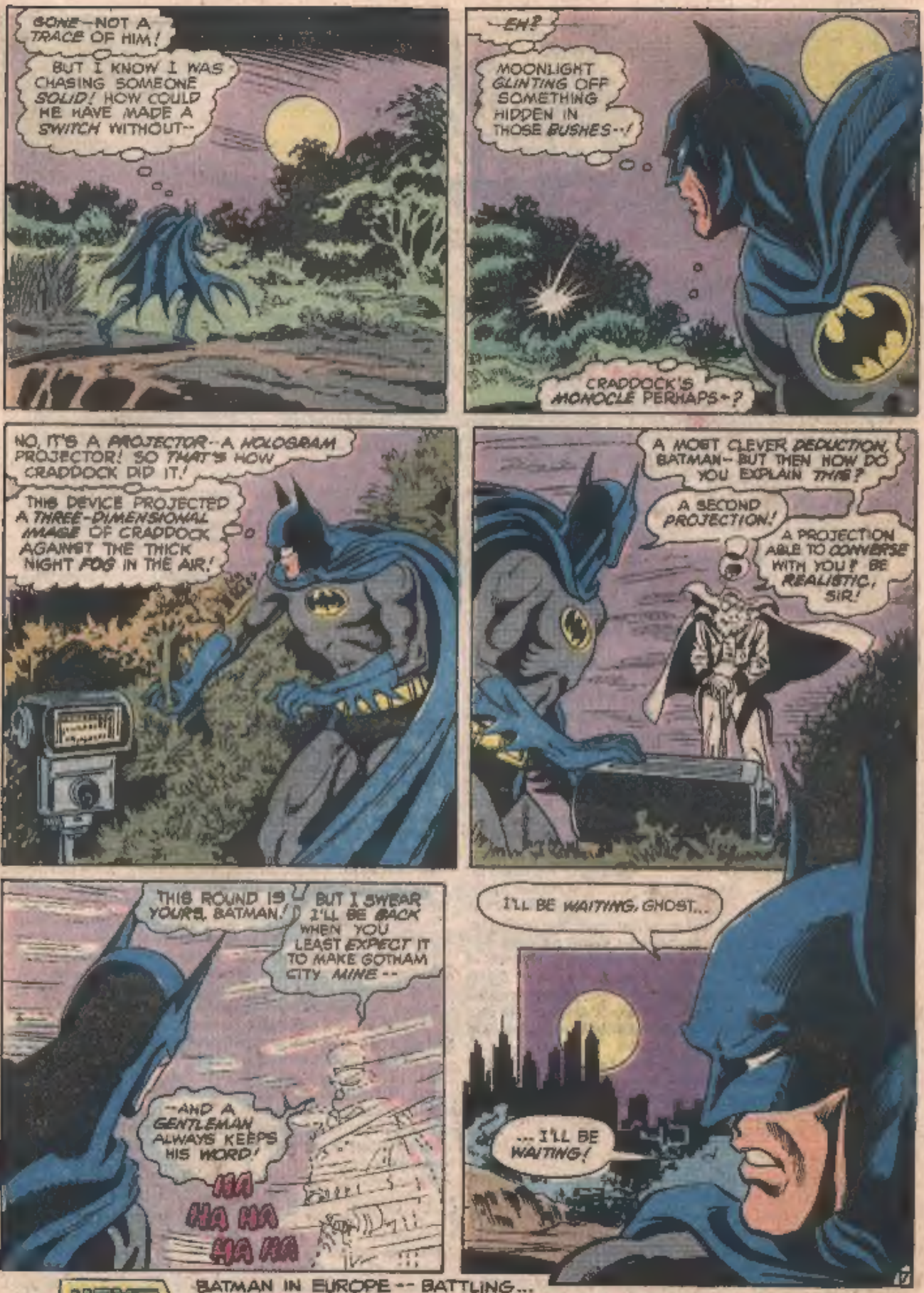



--UNTIL, AT THE VERY EDGE OF THE CLIFF WHERE THE GENTLEMAN GHOST SEEMINGLY MET HIS END ONCE BEFORE--
END OF THE ROAD, CRADDOCK! THERE'S NO PLACE LEFT FOR YOU TO GO!
PERHAPS NOT, SIR!



FEELS LIKE I ALMOST PULLED MY ARM OUT OF THE SOCKET--
--BUT AT LEAST I'M ALIVE!
AND THERE'S STILL A CHANCE FOR ME TO PICK UP CRADDOCK'S TRAIL!
16

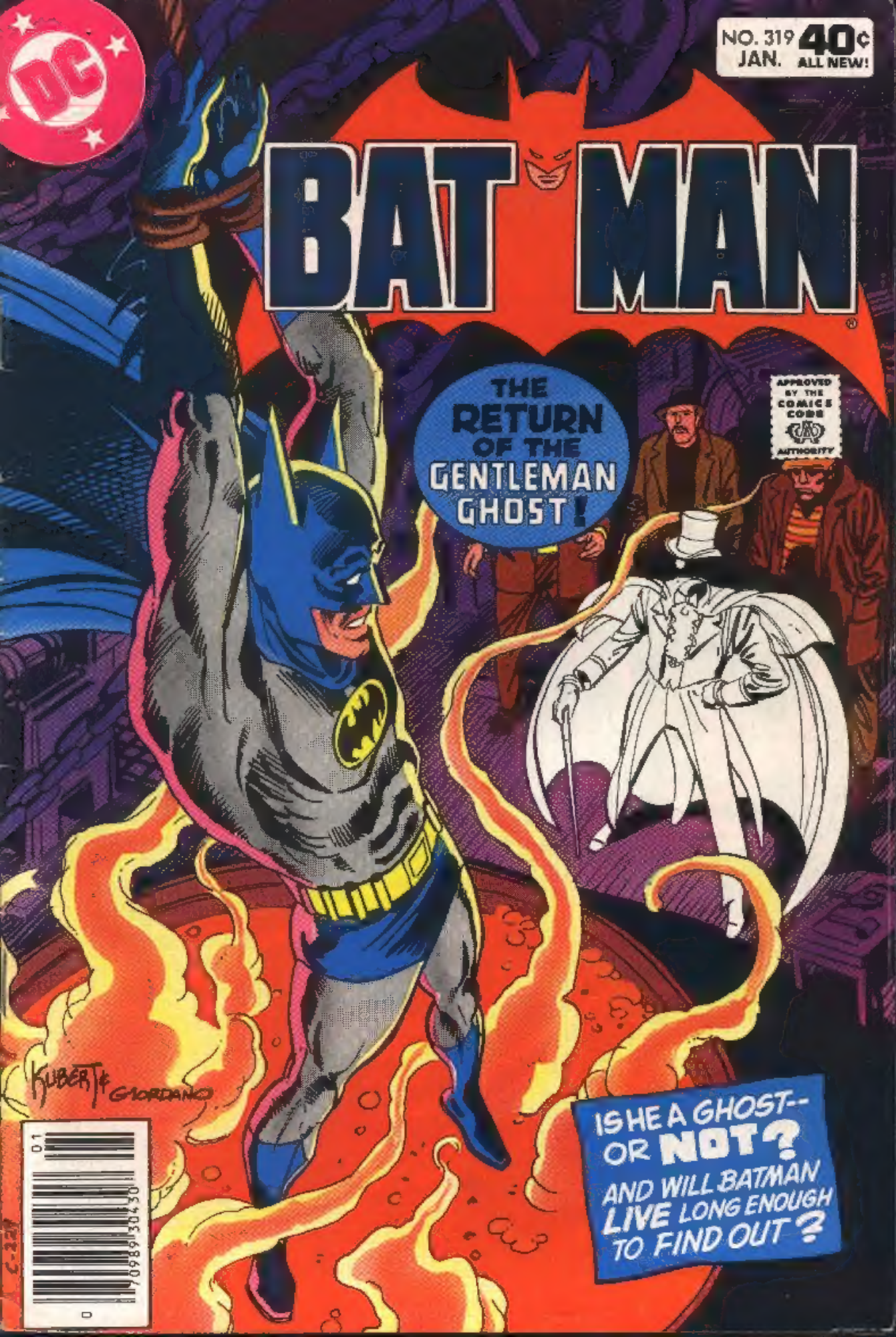
CONCLUDED ON 3rd PAGE FOLLOWING


GONE—NOT A TRACE OF HIM!
BUT I KNOW I WAS CHASING SOMEONE SOLID! HOW COULD HE HAVE MADE A SWITCH WITHOUT--
—EH?
MOONLIGHT GLINTING OFF SOMETHING HIDDEN IN THOSE BUSHES--!
CRADDOCK'S MONOCLE PERHAPS--?
NO, IT'S A PROJECTOR--A HOLOGRAM PROJECTOR! SO THAT'S HOW CRADDOCK DID IT!
THIS DEVICE PROJECTED A THREE-DIMENSIONAL IMAGE OF CRADDOCK AGAINST THE THICK NIGHT FOG IN THE AIR!
A MOST CLEVER DEDUCTION, BATMAN--BUT THEN HOW DO YOU EXPLAIN THIS?
A SECOND PROJECTION!
A PROJECTION ABLE TO CONVERSE WITH YOU? BE REALISTIC, SIR!
THIS ROUND IS YOURS, BATMAN!
BUT I SWEAR I'LL BE BACK WHEN YOU LEAST EXPECT IT TO MAKE GOTHAM CITY MINE--
--AND A GENTLEMAN ALWAYS KEEPS HIS WORD!
HA HA HA HA HA
I'LL BE WAITING, GHOST...
...I'LL BE WAITING!
17

NEXT ISSUE:

BATMAN IN EUROPE -- BATTLING...

"THE CURSE OF THE INQUISITOR!"


NO. 319 JAN.
40¢ ALL NEW!
BAT MAN
THE RETURN OF THE GENTLEMAN GHOST!
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
KUBERT & GIORDANO
IS HE A GHOST-- OR NOT?
AND WILL BATMAN LIVE LONG ENOUGH TO FIND OUT?